Queen Anne Cobblestone

The Newsletter of the Queen Anne Historical Society, Seattle, WA

May, 2006

Historical Marker Program Celebration Sat. May 13, 10 am

Members and friends of the Queen Anne Historical Society are invited to share in a **formal Historical Marker installation ceremony at 10 am on Saturday, May 13, at 1701 4th Ave. N.**

The O.B. Williams house, owned by Rosemary Daszkiewicz and Guy Thomas, will receive its marker, showing the year the house was built. There will be stories about the house and refreshments will be available.

Built in 1904, this home was designed by the owner, who ran a successful door and sash company in Seattle, after trying many other businesses. The home features a wonderful turret roof over the front porch, as well as large first floor windows in the living room and dining room that pivot horizontally.

The Society's Marker Program, chaired by John DeRosa, is designed to encourage homeowners to collect and archive for future owners the stories that make their house a home.

The award ceremony is being coordinated with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and with Historic Seattle, as part of the National Trust's "National Preservation Month 2006".

(Continued on page 3)

Tom Hanks, in a scene from "Sleepless in Seattle" (1993, Tristar), set in the O.B.Williams house. The May 13 program will discuss the house's history and present the owners with a marker.

Catharine Blaine Speaks

Seattle's First Teacher

Wed. May 24th, 7:30 pm

From out of the past, Seattle's first teacher, **Catharine Paine Blaine, will address our society** at our next public meeting. Highly regarded **Puget Sound Storyteller, Debbie Dimitre,** will portray Catharine Blaine as she tells about the travails of opening Seattle's first school in 1854.

Ms. Dimitre has been entertaining and informing audiences for over 15 years and brings historical accuracy, period clothing and a wealth of great stories to her character roles. She has appeared in several programs of the Queen Anne Historical Society and these always gather an enthusiastic audience.

The May meeting is also the **Society's Annual Membership Meeting** and will include updates on the Treat House preservation status and the election of the 2006-2007 Board of Trustees.

Join your neighbors at this fascinating public meeting!

Wednesday, May 24, 7:30 pm
McClure Middle School Cafeteria
First Ave W. and W. Crockett St.

The meeting is free and open to the public. It begins at 7:30 pm at McClure Middle School cafeteria, 1915 1st Ave. West on Queen Anne. For more information, contact John Hennes at 206-284-2266.

Debbie Dimitre in period dress as Catharine Blaine.
Photo courtesy of D. Dimitre.

NOW HEAR THIS!

Cemetery Tour is Sat. June 17! (see page 2).

Treat House landmark status! (see page 3).

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The *Queen Anne Cobblestone*™ is the official newsletter of the Queen Anne Historical Society. It is published five times a year by the Society, at PO Box 19432, Seattle, WA 98109-1432.

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The QAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by Federal law.

The Archives of the Society are located in Bayview Manor, 11 W. Aloha St., Seattle, WA 98119

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Membership Notice

NOTICE! It's time to renew your membership for next year, 2006-2007. Your mailing label shows the year your current membership expires. If your label shows (2006EXP) it means your membership expires this month, May 2006. **Please use the coupon on page 3 and renew now.** For more information contact Membership Chair, Nadine Frazier, at 206-284-8369.
.....Thanks for rejoining and helping to make this a great organization!

Calendar of Events

Sat. May 13, 2006

Special Event: Historic Marker Program Celebration. 1701 4th Ave N, 10:00 am. Refreshments and displays. Free. (See story page 1)

Sat. May 20, 2006

Queen Anne Home Tour: St. Anne School biannual tour of elegant homes. From 11 am to 4 pm. Tickets at Pat's on the Ave, Ken's Market and others. Information at 206-285-1100.

Wed. May 24, 2006

Program and Annual Meeting: A Portrayal of Catharine Payne Blaine, Seattle's First Teacher, by Debbie Dimitre. This live performance, by a well known local actress, brings our past to life. The Society's Annual Meeting, at McClure Middle School Library, 7:30 pm. Free.

Sat. June 17, 2006

Walking Tour: The annual tour of Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, 3:00 pm. Note the new afternoon start time. 7th Ave. W. and W. Raye St. Free. (Story this page)

Wed. Sept. 27, 2006

Program: The Story of the Olympic Hotel, by Alan J. Stein. McClure Middle School Library, 7:30 pm. Free.

Mt. Pleasant Cemetery Tour Set For June 17

The Society's **annual free walking tour of Mt. Pleasant Cemetery is set for Saturday, June 17th at 3 pm**, at the entrance to the cemetery at 7th Ave. W. and W. Raye St.

The two-hour tour will feature grave sites of writers, publishers and artists, along with some of the previous popular stops. The history of cemeteries and the role of individuals in shaping the northwest will be presented.

This year's free tour has been moved to an **afternoon start time of 3 pm**, to make it available to people who have conflicting Saturday morning activities. Cemetery owners Bill and Loretta Edwards are again gracious in their support of this tour.

Bring your walking shoes and join us for an entertaining afternoon.

Kim Turner describes the tragic sinking of the ship Valencia, in 1906, at a recent tour.

Our Mission Statement

The mission of the Queen Anne Historical Society is to record and preserve, in permanent form, the history of the settling of the Queen Anne community and to develop within the community an appreciation and concern for its history and its historical sites.

HERITAGE NEWS

(Marker Program: Continued from page 1)

There will be speakers from the preservation community, including Russell Holter, Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. The former and current owners of the O.B. Williams house will talk about their experiences.

Material will also be available if you wish to start researching your own house and acquire your own marker.

The ceremony is free and open to the public. To learn more about the Marker Program go to qahistory.org/hmp, or email program chair, John DeRosa, at *markerprogram@qahistory.org*, or call him at 206-282-3842.

Your Help is Needed to Save the Treat House

Preservation efforts for the Treat House, at 1 West Highland Drive, are continuing. The house was nominated for landmark designation on April 19, by the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board.

On June 7, after further review, the Board will vote to determine if this icon of Queen Anne will in fact be designated a Seattle landmark.

Treat house in 1905. Courtesy MOHAI

Your help is need to make this happen. Everyone knows and remembers this house. It stands as a landmark gateway to the West Highland Drive blocks and was built by Harry Whitney Treat, Seattle's wealthiest citizen when he arrived in 1903. Treat was the developer of the Loyal Heights area of Ballard and the park that became Golden Gardens.

The designation process can be encouraged by your letters of support for this nomination. You, your family, your neighbors all know of this house and the visual role it has on Queen Anne.

Please write or email the Board by June 1 to urge its designation as a landmark. Send an email to: *beth.chave@seattle.gov*
or send letters to:

Beth Chave, Landmarks Preservation Board, City of Seattle, PO Box 94649, Seattle, WA 98124-4469.

Now is the time. Preservation needs all of us to make it work. For more details on Treat and the house, go to our website: qahistory.org/treat/treathouse.

Bob Frazier Recovering

Society members will be pleased to hear that Bob Frazier, former QAHS president and long-time Queen Anne preservationist, is recovering well from a mild stroke he experienced this month.

Many of us have worked with Bob for years, and his sudden, and hopefully temporary absence is a sobering reminder of the fragility of our lives and of the value Bob has brought to the Society and to Queen Anne's history.

Bob and his wife, Nadine, can be reached at 521 5th Ave W, #804, Seattle, WA 98119 or 206-284-8369.

Queen Anne High School Soon to Become Condos

The Queen Anne Apartments, located in the old high school, are being converted to condos. The former developers of the school, Lorig Associates, have contracted with Legacy Partners Residential to manage the conversion and sale of the units.

Current renters will be given first right of refusal to buy their units. Queen Anne alumni are being solicited as potential buyers.

The Seattle School District, which has continued to own the land, will now give up all rights in this process. The building will continue to be a Seattle Designated Landmark.

The developers hope to have a grand opening in July for alums and public.

Fall Walking Tour in Work

Another of Kim Turner's walking tours of Queen Anne is in the works for this fall, September 16, at 3 pm. This time we will cover the area around Queen Anne High School and the soon-to-be-demolished water tower.

Mark your calendars and watch for details in the September Cobblestone and the Queen Anne News.

Yes, I want to join the Queen Anne Historical Society in preserving our community's heritage and promoting the public's understanding of its past.

Name _____ Tel. _____

Address_____

City _____, State _____ Zip_____

E-mail _____

Member Category: (check one)

___ Individual	$15	___ Patron	$50 - $199
___ Family	$20	___ Benefactor	$200 & up
___ Student/Senior	$8	___ Contribution only, $_____	

___ I would like to become active in the Society.

The QAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
Donations are deductible to the extent permitted by Federal law.

Return with payment to: *Queen Anne Historical Society, PO Box 19432, Seattle, WA 98109-1432*

I want to order the Society's book, *Queen Anne—Community on the Hill*.

I understand that mailing costs will be added.

Prices are:
Soft cover: $25
($20 for members)
Hard cover: $45
($40 for members)

Please send me the following:
Soft cover qty:____
Soft cover cost: $_____
Hard cover qty:____
Hard cover cost: $_____
Mailing costs at $3/book: _____
Total Cost$_____

Queen Anne Historical Society
PO Box 19432
Seattle, WA 98109-1432

***Coming up*: The grand opening of the Historical Marker Program. Saturday, May 13, 10 am. See story page 1.**

Kim's Musings

Going, Going, Gone

Last month I wrote about the 1949 earthquake. The 18th of April marked the 100th anniversary of the great 1906 California earthquake which did so much damage in the San Francisco Bay area. The Prince William Sound (Alaska) earthquake of Good Friday, 1964, not only caused tsunamis, but actually lifted the entire seabed many feet higher. Earth constantly amazes me as to its ability to build, destroy, rebuild, and constantly change its appearance.

I see a similar effect in the constant changes in our neighborhoods. Houses are placed on the market, sold, torn down, and two or more town houses appear on the same site. The basic problem is: I can't remember what the houses were like which stood on the site previously. This may be a result of our fast-paced modern society, for too many nice houses have vanished. Some are replaced by structures which have both architectural integrity, and a beauty which complements the houses around them. Others, glaringly out-of-place, stand cheek-by-jowl with houses beside which they look totally out of place.

So I have two problems. The first is not having a photo of the previously situated buildings, and the second is wishing that developers would look at the surrounding structures before putting up one which simply does not fit. One doesn't have to place greed above beauty. The fact that we don't have enough activists to go out and take pictures of all the buildings on their individual streets results in the continuing situation of losing buildings and having no historical photo file of them once they are gone.

Lawton Gowey did just that kind of a service from the 1950s into the 1980s. He left us with a rich heritage of photos of homes, businesses and streets from all over Queen Anne Hill. This heritage, however, needs to be updated regularly for it to continue to be of long-term (and short-term) use to the researcher. Buildings aren't just victims of change—many have been lost in prior years to earthquake, fire and deliberate neglect.

Think about going out and taking photos of your block; photos of streets near yours; photos of your favorite businesses or walking routes. The Queen Anne Historical Society will always need good shots of homes and businesses, both exterior and interior shots. Take a few pictures inside your own homes and see what you find.

Kim R. Turner, Research Chair

Isn't it time you became more involved with the Queen Anne Historical Society?
Join the Board of Trustees! Help out in the archives! Call John Hennes at (206) 284-2266 for more details about how you can share in making and keeping Queen Anne's history.